

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

A B S T R A C T

Public Services - Irrigation and CAD Department – Certain irregularities noticed in finalisation of tenders for executing the work of Peddagadda Reservoir Project near Kesali (v) in Pachipenta (M) of Vizianagaram District – Article of charges framed against Smt.Saraswathi, Assistant Engineer along with others - Appointment of Smt. Chandana Khan, IAS, Member, Commissionerate of Inquiries, GA Dept as Inquiring Authority – Enquiry report submitted – Further Action Dropped – Orders – Issued.

=====

IRRIGATION & C.A.D.(SER.X.2) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.905

Dated:16 -07-2008

Read the following:-

1. G.O.Rt.No.1243, I & CAD Deptt., dt:2-9-2006
2. From Smt.Saraswathi, AE representation dt:20-9-2006
3. G.O.Rt.No.820, I & CAD (Ser.X.2) Deptt., dt:30-5-2008
4. From Smt.Chandana Khan, IAS, Member, COI (GAD) D.O.Lr.No. 696/COI-CK/2007, dt:30-5-08.

ORDER:-

In the reference first read above, the following articles of charge has been framed against Smt.Saraswathi, Assistant Engineer along with others for the irregularities noticed in finalisation of tenders for executing the work of Peddagadda Reservoir Project near Kesali (v) in Pachipenta (M) of Vizianagaram District.

Article of Charge:

After processing of first call tender for the above work, the Commissioner of Tenders has accepted the bid of L2 i.e, G.Venkata Reddy & Company. Instead of awarding the work to the L2, the PA & SE, TTPR Circle, Vizianagaram relying upon Engineer-In-Chief (Administration Wing) Memo. Dt. 28-2-04, after wasting the time available to him from 05-02-04 to 28-2-04, unconscious of protecting Govt., interest, has resorted to second call causing a loss of at least Rs.88 lakhs to the Govt.,.

Even the L1 from the second call, which was accepted by the COT for Rs. 661.26 lakhs, was not awarded the work, once again relying on Govt., instructions dated 29-03-04, which stated to await Govt., instructions. With an aim to avoid L1 and further the interest of L3 who has quoted 5.04% less, the SE has requested for extension of tender validity to which as expected only L3&L4 responded.

Supposedly making a misrepresentation to the Principal Secretary, I&CAD, the SE has reportedly obtained oral permission from the Principal Secretary, I&CAD, for making the third tender call without any justified reasons. Eventually the work had to be allotted to Deepika constructions, the L1 in 3rd tender call at (-) 5.11% less as a result of mishandling and willfully misusing the communication gap by the SE and a loss to the Govt.,.

Unmindful of your responsibility as the Assistant Engineer concerned you have not properly guided the Superintending Engineer in safeguarding Govt., interest in the entire episode. By not objecting to / dissenting from the Superintending Engineers actions, you have facilitated him in his mishandling of the tendering process and thus causing loss to the Govt.,.

2. In the reference 2nd read above, Smt. Saraswathi, Assistant Engineer submitted his written statement of defence.

//2//

3. In the reference 3rd read above, Smt.Chandana Khan, Member, Commissionerate of Inquiries, General Administration Department has been appointed as Inquiry Officer to conduct departmental inquiry into the above said irregularity.

4. In the reference 4th read above, the Inquiry Officer has conducted inquiry and submitted her report, in which it was reported that none of the charges framed against any of the charged officers is proved.

5. Government after careful examination of the entire matter have decided to accept the recommendations of enquiry officer and hereby drop further action against Smt.Saraswathi, Assistant Engineer.

6. The Engineer-in-Chief (AW), Irrigation & CAD Department, Hyderabad is therefore requested to take necessary further action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

S.P.TUCKER

PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

Smt.Saraswathi, Assistant Engineer through Engineer-In-Chief(Administration Wing), I & CAD Deptt, Hyderabad.

Copy to:-

The Engineer-in-Chief (AW), Irrigation & CAD Department, Hyderabad.

The, Accountant General, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.

The Pay and Accounts Officer, Hyderabad.

The Andhra Pradesh Vigilance Commissioner, Hyderabad.

//FORWARDED : : BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER